

AWM 65

[3038]

KIRK, WILLIAM ARTHUR
412453

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

OFFICERS AND AIRCREW.

The following Biographical details are requested for use at R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, LONDON:-

Surname..... KIRK 412453

Christian Names..... William Arthur

Air Force Rank and Mustering..... Sgt Pilot

Degrees, Decorations, etc..... RT

Present Appointment and Location..... R.A.A.F. D.R.C.

Date of Birth..... 13th Dec 1921 Place..... GuyRA. N.S.W. Australia

Educated..... GuyRA Primary - GuyRA High School - Armidale High School

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Date of Entering Service..... 19th July 1941

Previous Service Experience..... None

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Places of Training..... No 21 TS. No 5 E.F.T.S. No 8 S.F.T.S.

.....

Civilian Career and Activities..... Accounting Clerk N.S.W. G. Railways

..... (supplied charters acct.)

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Clubs, Recreations, etc..... G. H.O.F. - Insurance Club

..... St. Pikel. Football. swimming. tennis

.....

Father..... Alexander Arthur Kirk: "Woodstock" GuyRA. N.S.W. Australia

Wife.....

Children.....

Home Address..... "Woodstock" Capital Creek Rd. GuyRA. N.S.W. Aust.

Signature

W.A. Kirk

Date

19th Nov 1942

Date Embarked

20th Aug 42

Destination

England. UK.

IRO. FORM.
I/R. 5.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

Overseas Headquarters,
Kodak House,
KINGSWAY, W.C.2.

SECRET & CONFIDENTIAL.

The following biographical details are required for R.A.A.F.
Historical Records, Overseas Headquarters. These forms are to be filled in
and returned to the Officer Commanding Repatriation Disposal Section, No.11
(R.A.A.F.) P.D.R.C.

NAME (in full).....*William Arthur Kirk*.....NUMBER.....*A/412453*..
RANK AND MUSTERING.....*F/O*.....*Pilot G.O.*.....DECORATIONS.....*D.F.M.*..
NUMBER I.T.S. COURSE.....*17*.....O.T.U. - A.F.U. etc.....*18(P) AFU: 11. O.T.U. 1681 H.C.V.*..
DATE LEFT AUSTRALIA)*24-8-42*..
CANADA)DATE OF ARRIVAL U.K.....*18-11-42*..
SOUTH AMERICA)
SQUADRONS.....*90 Sqdn*..
AIRCRAFT FLOWN.....*DH.82. Avro Anson. Oxford. Wellington. R. Stirling & M. of Lancaster.*..
COMBAT & TYPES OF ACTIVITY.....*Bomber*.....*bombing*..
OPERATIONS OR TRAINING WITH AMERICAN PERSONNEL, SQUADRONS, OR AIRCRAFT.....
.....*NIL*.....

DETAILS OF OPERATIONS - with dates: to be given as fully as possible under
the following applicable headings:-

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| (a) Number Operational Hours | (b) Number Operational Sorties, Day-night |
| (c) Targets attacked | (d) Attacks on enemy surface vessels - type, size, etc. |
| (e) Attacks on enemy submarines | (g) Outstanding sorties or incidents |
| (f) Combats with enemy aircraft | (i) Personnel in Photographic Reconnaissance Unit, Transport Command, etc., should give a brief report of their work. |
| (h) Other Australians in crews | |

(A) *213 hrs 15 mins.*..
(B) *32 Night.*..
(C) *Peenemunde - Aachen - Mannheim - Montlucon - Modane - Henneves - Kassel - Bremen - Teterhusen - Keil - Laon - Aubagne - Courtrai -*..
For French special French (C)...
(D) *NIL*.....(E) *NIL*.....(F) *4 four.*..
(G) *K153 EL badly damaged by two night fighter attacks - Mid upper Gunner D.F.M. - Self D.F.M.*..
(H) *F/O G.F. Smith's (A/B)*.....(I) *N.A.*..
DATE.....*20-2-45*.....SIGNATURE.....*W.A. Kirk*..
(Use other side, or attach extra sheets, if necessary).

DFM.

23/12/43

1628

Aus. 412453 Flight Sergeant William Arthur KIRK, R.A.A.F., No. 90 Squadron. This airman was the pilot of an aircraft which attacked Kassel one night in October, 1943. When nearing the target the aircraft was intercepted by a fighter. In the ensuing fight, Flight Sergeant Kirk's aircraft was repeatedly hit by the enemy's machine-gun fire which damaged the mid-upper and rear gunn turrets and started a fire in the fuselage. Nevertheless, when the engagement terminated, Flight Sergeant Kirk flew on to the target and bombed it. On the return flight it was difficult to maintain course and air speed owing to damage sustained but Flight Sergeant Kirk succeeded in reaching base. This airman set a fine example of skill, courage and determination.